

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01261 080815Z

21

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UNCLAS TEHRAN 1261

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP, IR
SUB: AMERICAN MEDICORP

REF: TEHRAN 0929

1. EMBASSY, TOO, IS SYMPATHETIC TO MEDICORP'S POSITION AND WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FIND SOME WAY TO BREAK THIS IMPASSE. MEDICORP'S OUTSTANDING CLAIM FOR \$2.15 MILLION FOR WORK ALREADY PERFORMED PARALLELS SITUATION WHICH MOST U.S. , FOREIGN AND IRANIAN FIRMS DOING BUSINESS WITH GOI ARE PRESENTLY FACING. IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT NEW BUDGET WILL PERMIT PAYMENT OF SUCH OUTSTANDING CLAIMS, AND DURING COURSE OF FEBRUARY, MINISTRIES AND GOI AGENCIES WILL BE ALLOCATING YEAR-END MONEY STILL REMAINING IN 1354 BUDGET AS WELL AS SPECIFYING EXPENDITURES UNDER 1355 BUDGET. INDICATION OF PAYMENT SCHEDULE TO MEDICORP WHOULD BE FORTHCOMING BY EARLY MARCH, AND IF SPECIFIC RESPONSE NOT RECEIVED BY THEN, EMBASSY WILL QUERY SENIOR MINISTRY OF HEALTH OFFICIALS ON BEHALF MEDICORP.

2. PAYMENT TO MEDICORP IS RESPONSIBILITY OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH; HOWEVER, UNTIL MINISTRY'S ALLOCATION PROCESS IS COMPLETED, IS IS DOUBTFUL THAT PAYMENTS TO MEDICORP AND OTHER FIRMS IN SIMILAR POSITION COULD BE MADE. WE THINK MAHDAVI, AT LAST AT THIS TIME, WOULD BE UNABLE TO CUT THROUGH THE BUDGETARY SNARL.

3. MEDICORP MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING THAT BRITISH HAVE
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SUBMITTED NEW PROPOSAL TO MEET \$120,000 PER BED CEILING DESPITE

ITS OWN OVERDUE PAYMENT SITUATION.
HELMS

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NNN

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